

REMARKS

Amendment After Allowance to Correct Formal Matters

Claims 16-31 are presented, based on the text throughout the application, including the Examples and the original claims. No new matter is added. Element (c) of Claim 21 has been amended to simply make it consistent in language with the earlier claim from which it depends. This amendment to element (c) of Claim 21 does not alter the claim scope, and embodies a mere correction of formal matters that does not introduce any additional issue requiring a further search or examination.

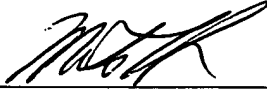
Claim 16, from which Claim 21 indirectly depends, provides that the "volume ratio of the hydrophilic and lipophilic solvents is from about 80:20 to about 5:95." As disclosed in the instant specification at page 11, lines 9 and 22, the hydrophilic solvent can be, for example, N-methyl pyrrolidone, and the lipophilic solvent can be, for example, triacetin. The instant Amendment to Claim 21 merely corrects the order in which the solvents appear so as to be consistent with the ratio set forth in Claim 16. Since this amendment does not alter the claim scope, and is a mere correction of formal matters that does not introduce any additional issue requiring a further search or examination, Applicants respectfully request entry thereof.

Correction of Notice of Allowance

The Notice of Allowance mailed October 31, 2003 lists Claims 16-30 as the allowed claims. However, Applicants' previously filed Amendment contains Claims 16-31. It is respectfully requested that previously presented Claim 31 be included in the allowed claims. During a telephone conversation, the Examiner suggested that a request for clarification of the Notice of Allowance be filed in order to include Claim 31 in the allowed claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that Claim 31 be included in the allowed claims through issuance of either a clarification or a corrected Notice of Allowance.

Favorable entry of the present Amendment, and prompt issuance of a clarification or corrected Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Mitul I. Desai
Reg. No. 46,661
Merck & Co., Inc.
Patent Department, RY60-30
P.O. Box 2000
Rahway, NY 07065-0907
Tel 732-594-3190

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